

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Air Traffic Controllers Guild had pointed out some difficulties in implementing the bifurcated route. The bifurcation was neither faulty nor dangerous to flight safety. However, the matter has since been resolved by some marginal realignment.

D.D.P. in Rajasthan

312. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had sanctioned Desert Development Programme Project during 1997-98 for stopping further increase of sand in desert districts of Rajasthan by tree plantation;

(b) whether the State Government and the Forest Development did not prepare any project in this regard and the D.D.P. project was stopped by the Union Government and the Cluster Development project started during 1995-96 ;

(c) whether the project Aravali tree plantation being run with the financial help of Japan Government has not yet been started in the State ; and

(d) whether the Union Government are considering grant of budget, for desert districts so that spread of sand is contained and tree plantation done on priority basis in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPY YERRANNAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India has sanctioned Desert Development Programme in Rajasthan for Watershed development which includes plantations.

(b) Desert Development Programme has not been stopped in the State of Rajasthan.

(c) Government of Rajasthan have informed that the Aravali Plantation project is being implemented in Desert districts of Sikar, Jhun Jhun, Nagaur and Pali.

(d) Government of India is regularly releasing grant to identified districts of the state to combat desertification. During current financial year, about Rs.24 crores for this purpose have been released to the State.

Review of Railway project in Maharashtra

313. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the progress of major railway projects launched during 1996-97 in Maharashtra ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and allocation of funds made for these projects during the current year, project-wise;

(c) whether the funds provided are far too inadequate for the timely completion of works resulting in cost and time escalation; and

(d) if so, the details of additional funds sought and likely to be made available ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The current status of the projects launched during 1996-97 in Maharashtra, together with the allocation made for these projects during 1997-98, are as under :

(Rs. in Crores)

Name of Project	Cost	Outlay For 1997-98	Current Status
1	2	3	4
NEW LINE			
1. Panvel-Karjat	89.00	1.00	Land acquisition for the project, which has since been cleared by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, has been completed. Work on long lead items is being taken up .
2. Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath	353.00	1.00	Clearance of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has been received. Land acquisition plans and papers have been submitted to the state Government and work would be progressed, once they make available the land.
GAUGE CONVERSION			
3. Jabalpur -Gondia including Balaghat	356.00	1.00	Clearance of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has been received. Final

1	2	3	4
4. Miraj-Latur	310.00	20.00	Location survey to determine the diversion required to suit broad gauge alignment has been taken up.
DOUBLING			
5. Panvel-Pen-Roha-	3.90	0.10	The work is being progressed in phases. The first phase work for new line from Latur to Latur Road and conversion of Kurduwadi-Pandharpur section has already been taken up.
Land acquisition			Land acquisition is in progress and is targetted for completion by 31.03.99. The doubling of this section will be taken up in the coming years.

(c) and (d) The works are being progressed as per availability of resources.

[Translation]

Survey for Manmad-Malegaon-Dhulia-Nardana Rail Line

314. DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for laying a new railway line Manmad-Malegaon-Dhulia-Nardana(Maharashtra) and extending it up to Indore (Madhya Pradesh) ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Survey for new broad gauge line between Dhule and Nardana with extension upto Shirpur has been completed. Survey for new line between Manmad and Dhule via Malegaon has been taken up. There is no proposal to extend the line from Shirpur to Indore at present, due to acute constraint of resources.

(b) Survey Report for Dhule-Nardana line with extension upto Shirpur, which was received in October,1997, has revealed the cost of the 62 kms. long line as Rs. 104.49 crores with a Rate of Return of 2.19%

[English]

Water Supply project for Karnataka

315. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether assistance from Japan's Overseas Economics Cooperation Fund(OECF) has been sought for the implementation of cauvery IV stage Water supply project for Bangalore city ;

(b) if so, the amount of assistance sought for ;

(c) whether OECF has agreed for the assistance ; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to become operational ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) Yes,Sir.

(b) The Bangalore Water supply & Sewerage Board has reported that the amount of assistance sought for is Rs. 804 crores .

(c) Yes,Sir.

(d) The financial assistance has already become operational from Janauary, 1997.

Performance of Components of NES

316. SHRI ANNASHIB M.K. PATIL : SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the performance of various components of Non-Conventional Energy Sources for 1996-97 in the country;

(b) if so, the details of programmes implemented and programmes proposed during 1997-98 alongwith targets set, State-wise;

(c) whether a number of projects in Maharashtra are inoperative and if so, the details alongwith the estimated investment including foreign made on such project-steps taken up for revival/re-operationalise such project;

(d) whether the Government have formulated a Special Integrated Energy Project for Maharashtra ; and